

Simon Saradzhyan

Simon Saradzhyan is a pre-doctoral research fellow at Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs and assistant director of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism.

Prior to joining the Belfer Center in 2008, Mr. Saradzhyan had worked as a journalist and as a researcher in Russia, of which he is a citizen, for 15 years. In his journalistic capacity Mr. Saradzhyan covered a number of milestone security events in Russia on the ground, including the October 1993 coup and the 1999 apartment bombings in Moscow. As an editor at *The Moscow Times*, he led coverage of dramatic events in Russia, such as the 2002 Dubrovka and 2004 Beslan hostage-taking crises. He also worked as Moscow correspondent for *Defense News* and *Space News*. While in Russia, Mr. Saradzhyan also served as a senior fellow at the East West Institute and worked as a consultant for the United Nations and World Bank.

As a researcher, Mr. Saradzhyan was the first in Russia to catalogue the threat of nuclear and radioactive terrorism posed by the North Caucasus-based terrorist groups and outline recommendations on how to reduce this threat in a paper published at the Belfer Center in 2002. He also initiated the first ever joint threat assessment of nuclear terrorism by U.S. and Russian experts published by the Belfer Center in 2011.

Mr. Saradzhyan is the author of a number of scholarly papers, articles, and book chapters on counterterrorism and arms control, including

- Saradzhyan, Simon, "The Dynamics of Russia's Response to the Piracy Threat," in "Piracy and Maritime Terrorism: Logistics, Strategies, Scenarios," NATO Science for Peace and Security Series, Vol. 95, April 2012.
- Saradzhyan, Simon. "Russia: Grasping Reality of Nuclear Terror," *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, American Academy of Political and Social Science, September 2006.
- Saradzhyan, Simon. "Russia's System to Combat Terrorism and Its Application in Chechnya," book chapter in "National Counter-Terrorism Strategies," Volume 14, NATO Security through Science Series: Human and Societal Dynamics, December 2006.

In his capacity as an expert at the Belfer Center on security-related developments in post-Soviet Eurasia, Mr. Saradzhyan has published op-eds in *Financial Times*, *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, and *The National Interest* as well as in leading Russian and European magazines and journals. He has appeared on *NPR*, *BBC*, and *CBS* as well as on Russian radio and television stations to comment on U.S.-Russian relations as well as on arms control; counter-terrorism; foreign; defense; and security policies of Russia and other post-Soviet states.

Mr. Saradzhyan earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at the Moscow State Linguistics University in 1992 and a Master's Degree at the Harvard Kennedy School in 2002. Since 2014, he has also been enrolled in the post-graduate program of the Department of War Studies at King's College London, where he is researching a dissertation on root causes of terrorism and insurgency in Russia.